

## Public Health Information Network (PHIN) Standards

(PHIN standards apply to the National Electronic Disease Surveillance System (NEDSS) – a PHIN initiative.)  
(This table is only a partial guide to the standards. See <http://www.cdc.gov/cic/functions-specs/> for complete specifications.)

Standard	Responsible Organization, Link to Details	Use/Importance of this Standard
<b>Public Health Data Standards</b>		
<b>HL7 Reference Information Model (RIM)</b> , (part of HL7 version 3.x )	Health Level Seven (HL7), <a href="http://www.hl7.org/">http://www.hl7.org/</a>	Conceptual model of health care concepts: classes, attributes, datatypes, vocabulary codes
<b>HL7 Messaging Specifications</b> , (currently based on HL7 version 2.x; version 3.x in development for future years )	Health Level Seven (HL7), <a href="http://www.hl7.org/">http://www.hl7.org/</a>	Defines messages (i.e. data element sequences), trigger events, sender/receiver roles, for common data exchanges
<b>LOINC</b> , (laboratory and clinical tests vocabulary)	Regenstrief Institute <a href="http://www.loinc.org/">http://www.loinc.org/</a>	Six-part coding scheme for describing laboratory tests (e.g. on specimens) and clinical tests (directly on living subjects)
<b>SNOMED</b> , (comprehensive medical vocabulary)	College of American Pathologists <a href="http://www.snomed.org/">http://www.snomed.org/</a>	Comprehensive, granular medical terminology describing a broad array of health care concepts
<b>Technology Standards</b>		
<b>XML</b>	World Wide Web consortium, <a href="http://www.w3c.org/XML/">http://www.w3c.org/XML/</a>	Platform-independent data transfer for web applications; data structure enforcement
<b>ODBC/JDBC</b>	<a href="http://www.microsoft.com/data/odbc/">http://www.microsoft.com/data/odbc/</a> <a href="http://java.sun.com/products/jdbc/">http://java.sun.com/products/jdbc/</a>	Common API for accessing database tables; including relational databases; plus others
<b>HTTP, HTTPS</b>	World Wide Web consortium, <a href="http://www.w3c.org/">http://www.w3c.org/</a>	Hypertext transfer protocol, used for HTML pages between browser and web server; HTTPS adds encryption, uses secure sockets
<b>SOAP</b>	World Wide Web consortium, <a href="http://www.w3c.org/">http://www.w3c.org/</a>	Protocol enabling invocation of remote services (object methods/procedures) over Internet; platform neutral
<b>ebXML</b>	OASIS and UN/CEFACT <a href="http://www.ebxml.org/">http://www.ebxml.org/</a>	Envelope protocol; the message service (only) of ebXML is used in conjunction with SOAP (per PHIN tech specs) to enhance routing, reliability, and security of message transmissions; no Public Health semantics;
<b>LDAP, LDIF</b>	ISODE consortium; Univ. of Michigan, IETF <a href="http://www.isode.com/whitepapers/ic-6032.html">http://www.isode.com/whitepapers/ic-6032.html</a>	Lightweight directory access protocol; provides information model and standard means of accessing directory contents. LDIF is interchange format for synchronizing (exporting, importing) LDAP directories.